

FLD 438

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Eisenhuettenkombinat Ost, Fuerstenberg/Oder	DATE DISTR.	30 October 1953
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT	
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Production

1. The output of pig iron during the period March to June 1953 was as follows:

March	43,700 tons
April	43,300 "
May	45,000 "
June	45,000 "

2. Thomas steel has been produced at the plant on an experimental scale since April 1953. One small furnace with a capacity of 10 tons per day is being used.

New Construction

3. No. I furnace group (furnaces I - IV). The weaknesses in the furnace foundations, as a result of which furnaces I, II, and III developed slight lists, towards the end of 1952, have now been remedied and all four furnaces are working normally. It was also decided, after inspection by a team of Soviet engineers, that it would be unnecessary to dismantle furnace No. I, as had at first been feared. Although this still has a list of 6%, its capacity is unaffected.
4. No. II furnace group (furnaces V - VIII). In view of the flaws discovered in the foundations of No. I group, the plans for No. II battery were scrapped and new designs have been drawn up by the management, working in cooperation with Soviet engineers permanently attached to Fuerstenberg. Work on all four furnaces is now in progress and the

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first two are expected to be in operation by March 1954. Each furnace is expected to have an average daily output of 800 tons. Construction is being supervised by the Soviet engineers and a team of Czech engineers from Moravska Ostrava, who are also temporarily attached to the construction staff as advisers.

Tube Rolling Mill

5. Plans have been completed for the erection of a tube rolling mill, but no date has yet been set for work to commence, as there are no plants in East Germany, with the exception of the Ernst Thälmann Works, Magdeburg, which is fully occupied with other orders, capable of producing the necessary equipment. Early in July, the Ministry for Heavy Machine Construction entered into negotiations with Czechoslovakia with a view to obtaining this from a plant in Brno. No agreement had been reached by the end of July however, because East Germany was unable to supply the goods (foodstuffs and light machinery) required by Czechoslovakia in exchange.

Power Station

6. Because of the strikes which took place in June at SAG Kabel, Dresden-Niedersedlitz and VEB Elbtalwerk, Heidenau, the main suppliers of equipment for this project, construction has been considerably delayed and the planned completion date has been set back two months.

Steel Works and Rolling Mill

7. After consultation with the Ministry of Heavy Machine Construction, the planned completion date has been postponed from 1 July to 1 October 1953, but the management at Fuerstenberg considers it unlikely that even the new date will be met.

General Conditions

8. The total number of workers employed at Fuerstenberg rose to 20,000 at the end of April. No major disturbances took place at the plant during June and production for the month was normal. This is largely the result of the considerable improvement in working conditions effected by the Soviet engineers who arrived at the plant earlier in the year and are now responsible for the supervision of production and new construction.
9. The plant has been renamed "Joseph Stalin" works:

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